Amendment under Article 34

[0014]

First, the first knitting process includes a process of starting knitting of one course from a part inside an end part of the knitting width of a front side knitted fabric by using the back side yarn feeding member while a knitting yarn forming a cross-over yarn being arranged on the inner face side of the tube of the tubular knitted fabric, and connecting a knitting start point and a knitting end point of the course so as to make it tubular while performing turn-back knitting for the next course, and crossing a first knitting yarn and a second knitting yarn to each other inside the knitting width at the turn-back position.

[0015]

The second knitting process includes a process of starting knitting of one course from a part inside an end part of the knitting width of a back side knitted fabric by using the front side yarn feeding member while a knitting yarn forming a cross-over yarn being arranged on the inner face side of the tube of the tubular knitted fabric, and connecting a knitting start point and a knitting end point of the course so as to make it tubular while performing turn-back knitting for the next course, and crossing the first knitting yarn and the second knitting yarn to each other inside the knitting width at the turn-back position.

[0016]

The present invention is characterized in that, in knitting a tubular knitted fabric, the knitted fabric is knitted in a tubular shape by not rounding in the same direction but performing turn-back knitting (so-called C-shape knitting).

[0017]

The C-shape knitting is knitted so as to knit from the course knitting start loop in each of the knitting processes to a position of one end part of the knitting width, to thereby knit from one end part up to the other end part of the knitting width while moving to the knitted fabric knitted by the opposite needle bed, and then the rest of the course is knitted while turning back to the knitted fabric from which the knitting has started. Next, the knitting start loop and the knitting end loop are connected while turning back so as to knit the next course similarly. The turn-back position of the first knitted fabric portion is set within the front side knitted fabric, and the turn-back position of the second knitted fabric portion is set within the back side knitted fabric, whereby knitting is performed respectively.

[0018]

Means for connecting the knitting start point and the knitting end point of a course by C-shape knitting include

knitting and tucking. For example, when knitting the next course by turning back after forming a knitting end loop of a certain course, tucking is made to a needle on which the knitting start loop before turning back is held, whereby a knitting start loop continued from the knitting end loop of the previous course in a wale direction is formed. Further, knitting or tucking as a connecting means may be performed at both or one of the knitting start point and the knitting end point of the course. In the appearance, turn-back knitting by tucking is preferable.

[0019]

It is preferable that a turn-back position of a course be proximity to an end part of the knitting width, and the turn-back knitting is knitted to an end part of the knitting width near thereto, first. By performing turn-back knitting in this way, a beautiful tubular knitted fabric can be knitted.

Here, when tucking is performed at a turn-back position of the course, it is preferable that tucking positions be an end part of the knitting width and a position of the second stitch from the end part of the knitting width alternately, and a knitting start loop be formed from the adjacent wale after tucked.

[0020]

Further, in order to cross a first knitting yarn and

a second knitting yarn to each other inside the knitting width at a turn-back position, when a loop is formed at the turn-back position, the front side yarn feeding member and the back side yarn feeding member are made to cross to each other inside the knitting width such that a knitting yarn forming a cross-over yarn is arranged on the inner face side of the tube of the tubular knitted fabric.

[0021]

As a method for turn-back knitting and crossing of the first knitting yarn and the second knitting yarn, it is preferable to perform the first knitting process and the second knitting process through the following steps.

That is, the first knitting process includes: a first step of positioning the front side yarn feeding member inside the knitting width; a second step of starting knitting of a front side knitted fabric from a part inside an end part of the knitting width by using the back side yarn feeding member, and then knitting it in a direction separating from the stopped position of the front side yarn feeding member up to one end part of the knitting width of the front side knitted fabric; a third step of positioning the front side yarn feeding member outside the knitting width of the side where the back side yarn feeding member is positioned; a fourth step of continuously knitting a back side knitted fabric and the remaining front side knitted

fabric of the course same as that of the second step by using the back side yarn feeding member; a fifth step of turning back from a turn-back position of the course knitted in the second step and the fourth step, and knitting a front side knitted fabric of the next course up to one end part of the knitting width, and then continuously knitting a back side knitted fabric; a sixth step of positioning the front side yarn feeding member inside the knitting width; and a seventh step of knitting the remaining front side knitted fabric of the course same as that of the fifth step by using the back side yarn feeding member.

[0022]

Further, the second knitting process includes: a first step of positioning the back side yarn feeding member inside the knitting width; a second step of starting knitting of a back side knitted fabric from a part inside an end part of the knitting width by using the front side yarn feeding member, and then knitting it in a direction separating from the stopped position of the back side yarn feeding member up to one end part of the knitting width of the back side knitted fabric; a third step of positioning the back side yarn feeding member outside the knitting width of the side where the front side yarn feeding member is positioned; a fourth step of continuously knitting a front side knitted fabric and the remaining back side knitted fabric of the

course same as that of the second step of this knitting process by using the front side yarn feeding member; a fifth step of turning back from a turn-back position of the course knitted in the second step and fourth step of this knitting process, and knitting a back side knitted fabric of the next course to one end part of the knitting width, and then continuously knitting a front side knitted fabric; a sixth step of positioning the back side yarn feeding member inside the knitting width; and a seventh step of knitting the remaining back side knitted fabric of the course same as that of the fifth step of this knitting process by using the front side yarn feeding member.

[0023]

That is, in the present invention, a resting yarn feeding member is moved inside and outside of the knitting width in the way of one knitting process so as to cross the both knitting yarns inside the knitting width. Specifically, during knitting from the knitting start point to an end part of the knitting width of the first course, a resting yarn feeding member is kept inside the knitting width. Then, after the knitting to one end part of the knitting width ends, the resting yarn feeding member is moved outside the knitting width of the side of one end part of the knitting width. Then, the resting yarn feeding member is kept outside the knitting width until the knitting of the next course by

turn-back knitting is moved to a needle bed for forming a knitting end loop. Next, after the resting yarn feeding member is moved inside the knitting width, knitting is performed up to the knitting end loop. In this way, by moving the resting yarn feeding member inside and outside the knitting width, a cross-over yarn is formed inside the knitting width and on the inner face side of the tube of the tubular knitted fabric while being crossed.

[0024]

Each of the first knitting process and the second knitting process including the steps described above takes a knitting process in which two courses consists one unit. Therefore, by repeating the first knitting process and the second knitting process alternately by once each time, the first knitted fabric portion and the second knitted fabric portion are knitted by each two courses.

[0025]

Further, at least one of the first knitting process and the second knitting process may be continued for plural number of times. By continuing it for plural number of times in this way, it is possible to change the width of the stripes appropriately.

[0026]

The present invention is characterized in that in a tubular knitted fabric having a stripe pattern including a

part in which a first knitted fabric portion and a second knitted fabric portion are continuously knitted by switching knitting yarns to each other for each knitting of plural courses, the first knitted fabric portion and the second knitted fabric portion are provided with turn-back positions inside an end part of the knitting width, and the turn-back position of the first knitted fabric portion is set within a front side knitted fabric and the turn-back position of the second knitted fabric portion is set within a back side knitted fabric so as to realize turn-back knitting. With such turn-back knitting, the present invention can provide a tubular knitted fabric having a stripe pattern in which both knitting yarns cross to each other inside the knitting width at a part of cross-over yarns of the knitted fabric, and a cross-over yarn of each knitting yarn is provided on the inner face side of the tubular knitted fabric completely.